

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

MIYAZAKI et al

Atty. Ref.: 2382-16

Serial No. 09/773,380

Group: 3737

Filed: February 1, 2001

Examiner: Lin, J.

For: MR IMAGING USING ECG-PREP SCAN

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March 24, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 25, 2002, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-4, 24, 32-35 and 52 without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter contained therein. Please amend claims 5-12, 14-16, 18-21, 23, 25, 27-31, 36-43, 45-51, 53, 54 and 56, and add new claims 57-60, as follows. A marked-up version of the claims showing the revisions thereto is attached.

5. (Amended) The MRI system of claim 58, wherein the first scan is carried out using a pulse sequence generating an echo signal to map echo data in a central region of a first k-space for producing the image, the central region corresponding to a lower-frequency region in a phase-encode direction of the first k-space, and